



Young Chickasaw ladies vie for titles during annual Chickasaw Princess Pageant

ADA, Okla. – Young ladies from throughout the Chickasaw Nation are preparing to vie for 2013-2014 Chickasaw Royalty.

The Chickasaw Princess Pageant is set for 6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 30 at the Ada High School Cougar Activity Center.

Contestants will seek titles in three Princess categories. Chickasaw Princess candidates are 17 to 25 years of age; Chickasaw Junior Princess contestants are ages 12 to 16; and Little Miss Chickasaw candidates are ages seven to 11.

Candidates will be judged on traditional Chickasaw dress, poise and random question. Candidates will also compete in the talent category. Past featured talents have included singing, stomp dancing and storytelling.

The newly-crowned royalty will have the honor and privilege of serving as Chickasaw Nation

ambassadors at functions and events across the country.

“Crowning the new Chickasaw princesses is always a time of strong emotions as the current princesses pass the torch to the newly crowned royalty,” Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. “Our Chickasaw Princesses serve as goodwill ambassadors and role models for our young people.”

The Chickasaw princesses have been making appearances for many years. The heritage of the princesses goes back to 1963 when Ranell (James) Harry was appointed the first Chickasaw Princess.

The 2012-2013 Chickasaw royalty are Chickasaw Princess Autumn Underwood; Chickasaw Junior Princess Chelsea “Sissy” Wedlow; and Little Miss Chickasaw Payton Robertson.

The outgoing royalty will be honored for their year of service during the

2013 - 2014 Chickasaw Princess Candidates



Savannah Burwell
Chickasaw Princess Candidate



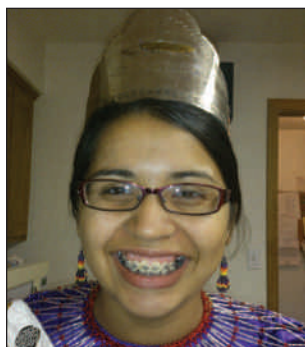
Dancing Star Frazier
Chickasaw Princess Candidate



Julie Underwood
Chickasaw Princess Candidate



Hailey Ellis
Chickasaw Junior Princess Candidate



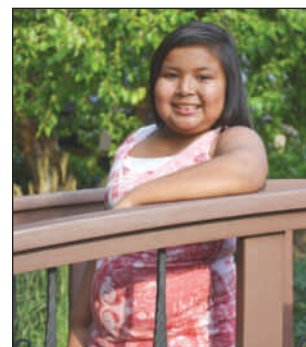
Faithlyn Seawright
Chickasaw Junior Princess Candidate



Winter Sage Frazier
Little Miss Chickasaw Candidate



Lauren Key
Little Miss Chickasaw Candidate



Cydnee Miller
Little Miss Chickasaw Candidate



Lakala Orphan
Little Miss Chickasaw Candidate



Jacee Underwood
Little Miss Chickasaw Candidate

ceremony.

Everyone is welcome to attend the pageant. The pageant is free and no ticket is required.

For more information about the Chickasaw Princess Pageant, call (580) 272-5508.

**2013 - 2014
Chickasaw
Princess Pageant**

6 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 30
Ada High School
Cougar Activity
Center

Chickasaw Princess Candidates

Savannah Nicole Burwell



Savannah Nicole Burwell

Savannah Nicole Burwell is the 20-year-old daughter of Jason Burwell and Leta Miller Burwell. She is a sophomore at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant.

"Why I would like to be Chickasaw Princess"

Chukma! My name is Savannah Burwell and I am 15/32 Chickasaw. I am 20 years old and attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, where I am majoring in business. I am the daughter of Jason and Leta Burwell, Ada, Okla.

Being Chickasaw Princess would open opportunities for me to share our rich history of who our people are. We are known as the "Great Unconquered and Unconquerable Chickasaw Nation" and, as I continue to learn, I do know much sacrifice and suffering was endured by our ancestors in creating the strong nation we are today.

I enjoy being a role model to our young people and want to share how the old ways are the foundation of our success today. It's important to know where we came from so we are prepared for the uncertainties of tomorrow.

row.

We are also challenged preserving our language. More fluent speakers are needed and I know we, the young people, are key to nurturing and strengthening our language.

As a child, I remember visiting my Memaw. She and my uncle would be at the kitchen table speaking our language but would grow silent or begin speaking English when company arrived.

My parents and I have set a goal to become fluent speakers believing that one day, there will be no silence and my children and their child will join in the conversation. Though a great endeavor, my parents have taught me we are never alone when taking on the challenges of life.

There is so much to learn from our elders and I am thankful for what's been passed on to me. We must all cherish these moments keeping them fresh and alive.

Being Miss Chickasaw would open doors of opportunity share with our young ones as well as the world outside our Oklahoma boundaries.

I hope I get the opportunity to become Miss Chickasaw.

Chi kah shah Poya!

Dancing Star Frazier



Dancing Star Frazier

Dancing Star Frazier is the 19-year-old daughter of George and Sonya Frazier.

"Why I would like to be Chickasaw Princess"

Chukma! Saholchifoat Fichik Hita (Dancing Star) Frazier. I am the 20-year-old daughter of George and Sonya Frazier. I am the older sister of Little Sky, Winter Sage, Jalen and Jacob Frazier. I am the great-granddaughter of Flora Perry and Martha Stick.

I currently work at the Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center where I work with two-year-olds in the post office.

I am currently active in the All Nation committee and active on a summer slow-pitch softball team. I was named Student of the Year in 1999, 2009 and 2011 for the Johnson-O'Malley Program.

I would be honored to represent the Chickasaw Nation by holding the title of Miss Chickasaw. If selected as princess I would represent with honor and pride. I would love to attend events and have the chance to meet new people of my tribe and other tribes. As an ambassador of the Chickasaw Nation I would teach my native youth about their language, culture

and tradition. I was first runner-up last year running for Miss Chickasaw. From the journey last year I have learned to never give up on what you believe in. If you set your heart to it you can accomplish your dreams. I would be honored to be an ambassador of the Chickasaw Nation. I love being around my family and learning how my family became a part of a great nation. Listening to my grandmother tell me about her journey of losing her daughter and finding her again after so many years. I have learned that with faith, love and the support of your family, you can accomplish anything. I would like to say thank you to everyone for the support, Faith and for believing in me.

*Chukmaski!
Fichik Hita Frazier
Chokma'shki,
Fichik Hita (Dancing Star) Frazier*

Julie Lashel Underwood



Julie Lashel Underwood

Julie Lashel Underwood is the 18-year-old daughter of Darrell Underwood and Linda Frazier Underwood. She is a

freshman at East Central University, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Chickasaw Princess"

Chukma, My name is Julie Underwood and I am running for Miss Chickasaw Princess 2013 - 2014. I am from Reagan, Okla., and attended school at Mill Creek High School. I am 18 years old and a freshman at East Central University where I am pursuing my degree in nursing. My parents are Darrell and Linda Underwood and my grandparents are Lillian and the late Andrew "Bud" Underwood.

I graduated from Mill Creek this past May where I was valedictorian of my senior class. This year I was selected Johnston County Chamber of Commerce Student of the Year, and I also received the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award. I have made the Superintendent's Honor Roll, the Principal's Honor Roll and was on the academic team.

Growing up, I jingle danced in pow wows with my brothers around the United States. I have always felt pride when I was dancing, because I knew that I was representing my Native American heritage. In 2008 - 2009, I felt that same pride as Junior Miss Chickasaw, as well as in 2002 - 2003 when I was Little Miss Chickasaw. I enjoyed my time being an ambassador for the Chickasaw Nation and would like to have the opportunity to experience it again.

As Miss Chickasaw, I will carry out the role with honor and integrity. With this title, I know there is great responsibility and I feel that I can fulfill that honor. If chosen as your next Chickasaw Princess, I am confident that I can be a role model and promote the Chickasaw people in the most positive way. I will be honored to earn the title of 2013 - 2014 Miss Chickasaw Princess.

Chickasaw Junior Princess Candidates

Hailey Nicole Ellis



Hailey Nicole Ellis

Hailey Nicole Ellis is the 14-year-old daughter of Jeremy Ellis and Elizabeth Ellis (Burris). She is in the eighth grade at Ada Junior High School, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Chickasaw Junior Princess"

Chokma,

Sa holhchifoat Hailey Ellis. I am 14 years old and I am in the eighth grade at Ada Jr. High School. My parents are Jeremy and Elizabeth Ellis. I have three brothers, Jayson, Jarrett and Jayden.

I enjoy playing basketball and tennis with my friends. I like to learn and hear my Mimi speak the Chickasaw language. My dad and I speak the language around the house, I am glad I have someone like them to teach me. I try my best to learn some of the language. I can say my numbers from one to 20 and most of my colors. I also try to teach my baby brother how to say his numbers in Chickasaw.

I love to go to the camps that are offered to the Chickasaw youth. I enjoy going to school and work hard to make good grades. I like to listen to music and go swimming. I have been part of CrossPointe Church for about one year now. I love going to church there. I also love volunteering to work with the

younger kids at church.

My aunt and cousins were all princesses and I want to carry it on. I just want to experience a part of my culture in a princess' view. I want to travel and see our history and culture. I want to be a role model to my family and friends. When I grow up I want to be able to say I got to experience the honor of wearing a crown for my Chickasaw tribe.

The Chickasaw Nation gives young girls like me the chance to be a princess and experience our culture and also the culture of many other tribes. I am glad to get that chance.

Chi pisa la cho,
Hailey Ellis

Faithlyn Taloa Seawright



Faithlyn Taloa Seawright

Faithlyn Taloa Seawright is the 15-year-old daughter of Larry Seawright and Gwendolyn Burris. She is a sophomore at Latta High School, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Chickasaw Junior Princess"

Chukma! Saholhchifoat Faithlyn Taloa Seawright! I am the daughter of Gwen Burris and Larry Seawright. I am 15 years old and an honor student at Latta High School where I am an FCCLA member, a student of the Gifted and Talented program

and a member of Governor's Honor Club.

I am involved in many activities: Chickasaw Choir, Chikasha Apihchi Ikbi (Creating Chickasaw Leaders), Chickasaw School of Guitar, Chickasaw Summer Arts Academy, Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women, All Nation Pow-Wow committee, a summer youth worker at Arts and Humanities and a member of Round Lake Indian Church. I've been a student in the Chickasaw language program and will continue my studies when the new season begins this fall.

I am 47/64 Chickasaw/Choctaw, my late grandparents are Rev. Lee (4/4 Chickasaw/Choctaw) and Mildren Bohanon Burris (7/8 Chickasaw/Choctaw) and Jack and Elsie Keel Seawright (4/4 Chickasaw). My great-grandfather Noah Burris was 4/4 Chickasaw as was my great-grandfather Archison Keel.

I am currently the 2013 All Nations Pow-Wow of Ada Princess and have held this title for two years. I have had the privilege and experience to travel and attend many events as Princess. Holding this title has helped me to gain public relation skills which I utilize in every area of my life and I have had much fun in representing our committee.

I would like to be Chickasaw Junior Princess and be an ambassador for our unconquered and unconquerable Chikasha people. Wearing this crown and being recognized as Junior Miss would be a great honor and I would enjoy every minute of immersing with our people, culture and traditions. I've had the pleasure of participating in various Chickasaw organizations and greatly cherish the friendships and opportunities I've made while learning about our tribe.

Being Junior Miss would enable me to increase my knowledge of our history, from our removal from Mississippi to our

ever-advancing innovations in our tribe. There are always new camps and programs that give me and other youth the opportunity to discover our talents and I enjoy these times of sharpening my skills.

As Junior Miss I will encourage our youth to be actively involved in our tribe, whether it's being in Apihchi Ikbi, CSSA or going to the Halloween lock-in. I am grateful to be a member in many organizations because I'm given the tools to experience different areas and this has helped me as a young artist.

I plan to attend college as an art major and I love to draw and write. I've entered my artwork in several contests such as the Native American Language Fair, the Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference and Forum, Chickasaw Southeast Art Show and Market and 2013 Red Earth youth

art competitions. Two of my illustrations are published in the upcoming "Footprints Still Whispering in the Wind" (Chickasaw Press) and I was recently invited as one of seven youth Chickasaw artists to assist artist Brent Greenwood on a "Chikashsha Yanush" project. As a 2011 CSSA student, I wrote a poem "heart of a Dancer" and this was published in the world-wide magazine The Cumberland Presbyterian. I am grateful to the Chickasaw Nation for allowing me these opportunities to enhance and showcase my art.

If selected Chickasaw Junior Princess, I shall be a positive example and represent our people in the highest fashion. Thank you for your encouragement and I look forward to seeing you all at the 2013 Chickasaw Princess Pageant!

Yakoke,
Faithlyn Seawright

'State of the Nation' will stream live on the web, radio broadcast by KCNP

A live video and audio stream of the Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and "State of the Nation" address by Governor Bill Anoatubby will be available on the Chickasaw Nation website and KCNP Radio.

The 53rd Annual Meeting begins at 9 a.m. Central Daylight Time, Saturday, Oct. 5. Live broadcast on KCNP Radio and the Chickasaw Nation website will begin at 8:30 a.m.

A live webcast can be accessed by logging on to www.chickasaw.net/annualmeeting on any mo-

bile device and clicking on the State of the Nation web stream link.

An audio broadcast can be accessed at www.kcnpradio.org.

In the Ada, Okla., area, the Annual Meeting can be heard on KCNP 89.5 FM.

The Annual Meeting is called to order at 9 a.m. CDT, 10 a.m. Eastern, 8 a.m. Mountain, 7 a.m. Pacific.

The Annual Meeting will be rebroadcast on the web at noon CDT, 1 p.m. Eastern, 11 a.m. Mountain, 10 a.m. Pacific.

Little Miss Chickasaw Candidates

Winter Sage Geordana Frazier



Winter Sage Geordana Frazier

Winter Sage Geordana Frazier is the 10-year-old daughter of George Frazier and Sonya Scott-Frazier. She attends the fifth grade at Homer Elementary School, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Little Miss Chickasaw"

Chukma!

Saholchifoat Winter Sage Geordana Frazier, I am the 10-year-old daughter of George Frazier and Sonya Scott-Frazier. I am active in baseball, basketball and track. I have been on the Governor's Honor Roll and the Principal's Honor Roll since the first grade.

I would be honored to represent the Chickasaw Nation in being crowned Little Miss. I would represent my Chickasaw people with pride and honor. Being an ambassador of the Chickasaw Nation I would like to attend events, meet new people and learn more about my Chickasaw heritage. As a Chickasaw youth being Little Miss would give me a chance to show my peers what being Chickasaw is all about.

Chuckmaski!

Winter Sage Frazier

Lauren Paige Key



Lauren Paige Key

Lauren Paige Key is the nine-year-old daughter of Joshua and Summer (Jones) Key. She is in the fourth grade at Byng Elementary School, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Little Miss Chickasaw"

My name is Lauren Paige Key. I am nine years old and a fourth grader at Byng Elementary School. My parents are Joshua and Summer Key, of Ada. I have three sisters and one brother.

My first year running and being named first runner-up as Little Miss Chickasaw, helped me to meet new people and gain new friendships. That experience has given me even more encouragement and I thrive to run and do the best I can in this year's pageant, hoping I could be the next Little Miss Chickasaw 2013-2014.

It would be an honor to represent the Chickasaw Nation as Little Miss Chickasaw, getting to experience more of the Chickasaw culture, to grow and be more involved in my culture as a young Chickasaw. I would love to represent the Chickasaw Nation as your princess and I would do my very best to uphold my duties if I am chosen.

Yakoke!

Lauren Key

Cydnee Rese Miller



Cydnee Rese Miller

Cydnee Rese Miller is the nine-year-old daughter of Rick and Sherri (Hamilton) Miller. She is in the fourth grade at Washington Grade Center, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Little Miss Chickasaw"

Chukma!

Saholhchifoat Cydnee Miller. I am nine years old and attend the fourth grade at Washington Grade Center in Ada, Okla.

I want to be Little Miss Chickasaw because I want to gain more knowledge of my Chickasaw culture. I also want to be a role model to not only the younger girls but also older girls.

Being Little Miss Chickasaw will give me the opportunity to travel and see new places along with learning other tribes cultures not just my own. I

f chosen to be Little Miss Chickasaw, I will uphold my duties to the best of my abilities and be a great ambassador for the great Unconquered and Unconquerable Chickasaw Nation.

Yakoke

Lakala Sahale Orphan



Lakala Sahale Orphan

LaKala Sahale Orphan is the eight-year-old daughter of Ruebin Ray Orphan and LaTonia Sue Orphan (Williams). She is a third grader at Homer Elementary School, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Little Miss Chickasaw"

My name is LaKala Sahale Orphan. I am the eight-year-old daughter of Ray and LaTonia Orpahn and I in the third grade at Homer Elementary, Ada.

I would like to become the 2013-2014 Little Miss Chickasaw because I am proud to be Chickasaw and it would be an honor and a privilege to represent the Chickasaw Nation and it's citizens.

I would do my best to fulfill my duties as Little Miss Chickasaw.

Thank you,

LaKala Orphan

Jacee Grace Underwood



Jacee Grace Underwood

Jacee Grace Underwood is the eight-year-old daughter of Joseph Underwood and Eugenia Postoak Underwood. She is in the third grade at Homer Elementary School, Ada, Okla.

"Why I would like to be Little Miss Chickasaw"

I would love to be princess because I think it will be fun to see new places and meet new people.

Being princess would be a new adventure for me. It would be an honor to represent the Chickasaw Nation on my new adventures.

Also, I would like to be princess because my mema was Chickasaw Princess and I look up to her for being a strong Chickasaw woman and leader.

Jacee Underwood